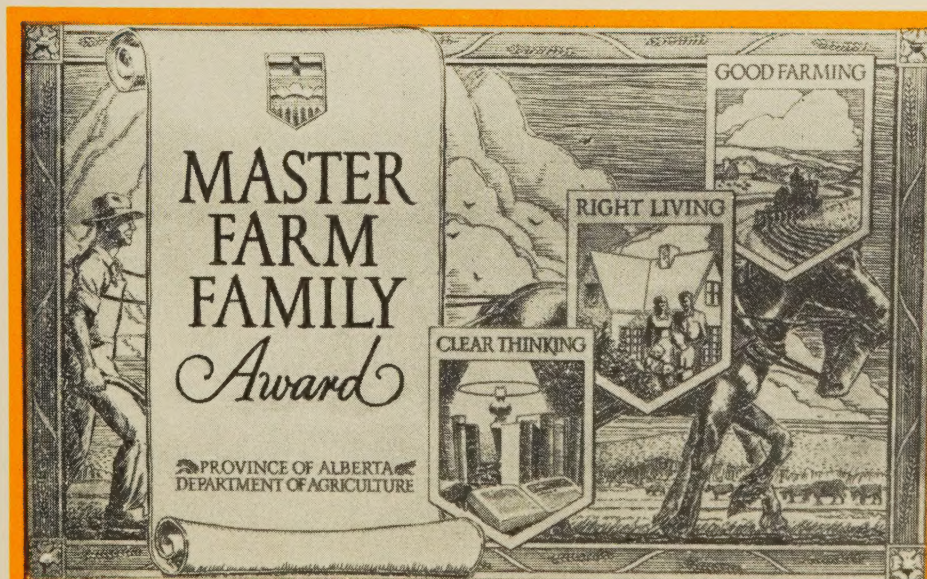




MASTER FARM FAMILIES

OF ALBERTA

1959



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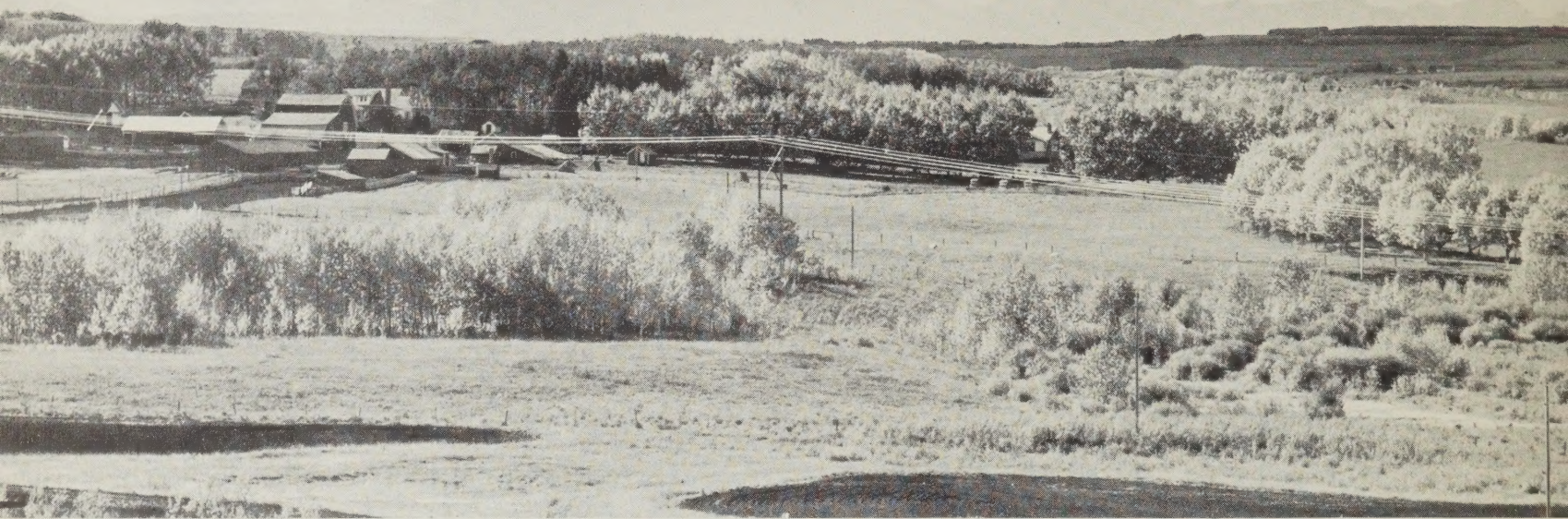
On behalf of the Alberta Department of Agriculture, I am pleased to recognize and pay tribute to two more Alberta Farm Families who have reached a high degree of agricultural achievement.

The successful farmer today must keep abreast of the latest progress being made in the science of Agriculture and particularly in the application of the findings of science in his own farm business. Leading farmers are becoming skilled not only in sound husbandry practises but also in the combination of these practises into a well-balanced business enterprise.

These farm families have demonstrated their outstanding farming ability but an even greater achievement is that of a good, meaningful family life and good citizenship. A balance of achievement in these important fields has earned for these families the merit and recognition of all the citizens of Alberta. They too, have earned the distinction achieved by this elite group of Master Farm families by practising good farming, right living and clear thinking.

HONOURABLE L. C. HALMRAST

Minister of Agriculture



Robertson Family of Carstairs

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA

A DIVERSIFIED cattle and hog ranching enterprise has won a Master Farm Family award for the A. M. Robertson family of Carstairs.

Mr. Robertson was born in Carstairs in 1905 and attended a district public school and the Didsbury High School. He farmed with his father, one of Alberta's original pure-bred Hereford breeders, until his marriage to a life-long friend and school mate in 1927.

The newlyweds started off on a half-section of raw land. The holdings of the Master Farm Family now total more than two sections of land. Another quarter-section is leased.

Mr. and Mrs. Robertson have two children, Donald a graduate of the University of Alberta, Faculty of Agriculture, and Gordon, who has taken the farm mechanics course at the Calgary Institute of Technology and Art. Donald, married with two children, farms with his father, while Gordon, also married, farms on his own a short distance away.

The Robertsons have about 650 acres of their holdings under cultivation. They have 400 acres seeded to Rodney oats and Vantage barley, 125 acres are in hay and 125 acres in summerfallow. A nine-year rotation program is followed. Two years of grain are followed by a year of green manure fallow, three years of grain and three years of forage.



All grain grown by the Master Farm Family is used for feeding a herd of purebred Herefords, and hogs. No grain has been grown for sale for 30 years.

The Robertsons' beef herd is centered around a nucleus of 50 pure-bred cows and two bulls. The breeding program calls for early calving with the calves carried over for one winter. Feeders are also bought in the fall and marketed the following December or January at a weight of approximately 1,050 pounds.

A rapidly expanding hog enterprise has been developed during the past few years. The hogs are a cross between Yorkshire sows and a Lacombe boar.

In addition to their own stock the Robertsons purchase weanling pigs to make up a total annual market of approximately 600 hogs.

Two dairy cows, 100 New Hampshire-Light Sussex hens and a few turkeys are kept on the farm for home use.

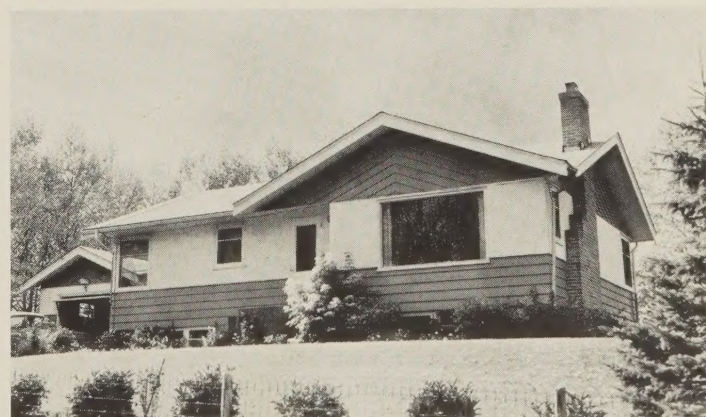
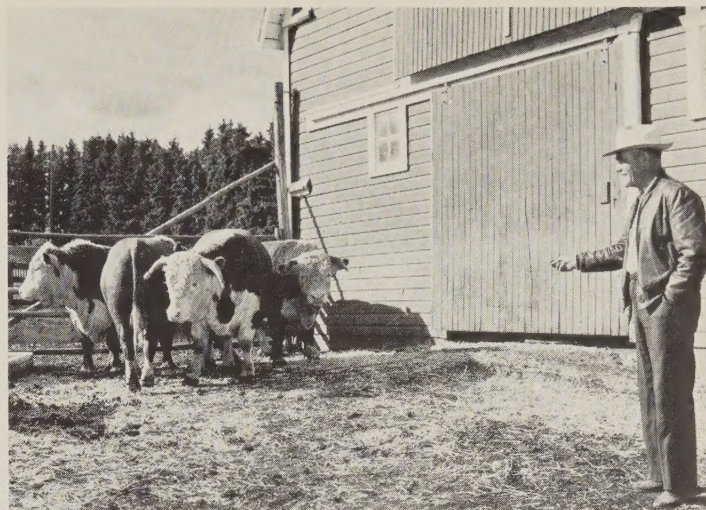
A full-line of modern equipment eases the work load on the farm.

The Robertson family have taken an active interest in community affairs and have held many executive positions in numerous organizations. Mr. Robertson has been a hospital board director, school board secretary, municipal councillor, director of the local rural electrification association, member of the Carstairs Chamber of Commerce, United Church Sunday school superintendent and director of the church board, director of the 4-H Club movement, and of the Carstairs choral society.

Mrs. Robertson, who taught school for four years prior to her marriage, has also taken an active part in community affairs. She has served as president of the United Church Women's Auxiliary, and is an active member of the I.O.D.E. and the local Scout group committee.

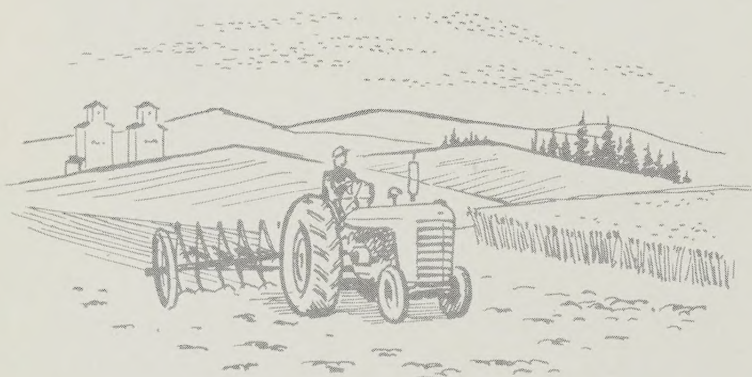
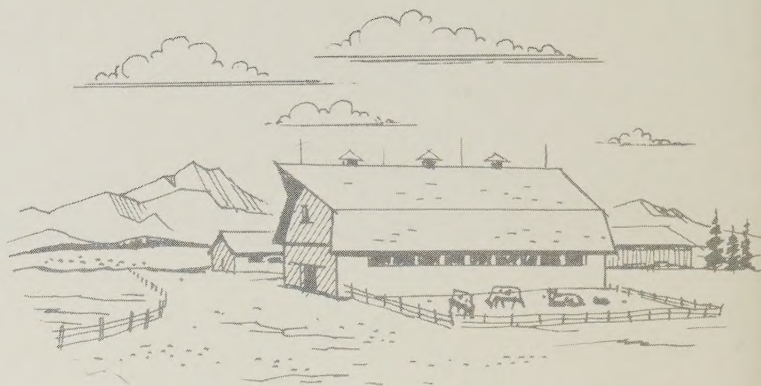
Sons Donald and Gordon have been active in the Scouting and 4-H movements, in school organizations and church and choral society.

Two attractive homes grace the Robertson farmstead. A three-year-old bungalow is used by the Senior Robertsons, while the older family home now houses Mr. and Mrs. Donald Robertson and their two children.





The George Cowling
Family of
 HIGH RIVER



The A.M. Robertson
Family of
 CARSTAIRS





1949

J. G. DUSSEAUT FAMILY	VIMY
W. J. EDGAR FAMILY	INNISFAIL
L. R. JENSEN FAMILY	MAGRATH
J. E. MELENKA FAMILY	WARWICK
JOSEPH PAQUETTE FAMILY	DONNELLY

1950

EMILE CAMMAERT FAMILY	ROCKYFORD
CHARLES KALLAL FAMILY	TOFIELD
ROY BALLHORN FAMILY	WETASKIWIN
E. S. PARSON FAMILY	BOYLE
FRED LARBRECQUE FAMILY	SPIRIT RIVER

1951

J. G. POROZNI FAMILY	WILLINGDON
J. W. HOSFORD FAMILY	S. EDMONTON
FLOYD GILKYSON FAMILY	LA GLACE
VICTOR WATSON FAMILY	AIRDRIE

1952

JESSE COLE FAMILY	CLIVE
JOHN LAMBERT FAMILY	MANNING
E. R. LEWIS FAMILY	STONY PLAIN
J. H. SCHMALTZ FAMILY	BEISEKER
JOHN SKRYPITSKY FAMILY	MUNDARE

1953

FRANK JACKSON FAMILY	KEG RIVER
ERNEST BELZIL FAMILY	ST. PAUL
EMIL KVARNBERG FAMILY	BUFORD
LESTER LOHR FAMILY	ERSKINE
HOWARD HYMAS FAMILY	ROSEBUD

1954

HARLIE CONRAD FAMILY	CLAIRMONT
MARTIN ARNDT FAMILY	BARRHEAD
ADAM BUYER FAMILY	CARBON
W. R. STORCH FAMILY	GARDEN PLAINS
A. W. KING FAMILY	HIGH RIVER

1955

THE ROBINSON FAMILY	PINCHER CREEK
B. O. BROWN FAMILY	ACME
CHRIS SCHNEIDER FAMILY	VEGREVILLE

1956

A. D. FRASER FAMILY	TEEPEE CREEK
ALFRED ROSE FAMILY	ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE
JOHN ROZMAHEL FAMILY	VIKING
WILFRED MCGILLIVARY FAMILY	COALDALE

1957

NO AWARDS

1958

JAMES McCULLOUGH FAMILY	DIDSBURY
MEL WOOD FAMILY	TOFIELD
ANDREW JESPERSON FAMILY	STONY PLAIN

1959

A. M. ROBERTSON FAMILY	CARSTAIRS
GEORGE COWLING FAMILY	HIGH RIVER



Cowling Family of High River

SOUTHERN ALBERTA RANCHING FAMILY

A SOUTHERN ALBERTA farming-ranching family, the George Cowlings of High River, were selected by the Government of Alberta as a Master Farm Family for 1959.

Mr. Cowling was born in Wawanessa, Manitoba, and came to Alberta with his parents in 1912. His rancher father settled in the High River area and the Master Farmer received his education in the district.

In 1932, Mr. Cowling began farming on his own. Armed with one horse and a young man's ambition, he started breaking land on the site of the present farmstead. The Cowling farm now encompasses two sections of land, one owned and one leased.

Of the Cowling holdings approximately 410 acres are under cultivation. About 200 acres are seeded to Red Bobs wheat, Victory oats and Gateway or Newal barley, and all grains are used for feed. One hundred acres is left in summerfallow, while sweet clover is grown on another 100 acres.

There are 230 acres of native hay and pasture on the owned section. The rented section of land is used as summer pasture for beef cows and calves. Some hay is also taken from this area.



This Master Farmer markets between 100 and 125 grade Hereford calves each year. The stock is built around 80 range cows.

The Cowlings also carry an average of 25 hogs throughout the year; market eggs from 100 chickens and sell cream from five milch cows.

Horses still play an important part in the Cowling farm operation. Six Clydesdales are used in harvesting and haying operations as the rolling topography does not lend itself to complete mechanization. Seven saddle horses, several of which are Palominos, also are used for work and pleasure.

The Cowlings have a family of four children. The eldest, Pearl, has taken one year of university training and now teaches school in the High River area. Norman is entering his second year at the University of Alberta School of Engineering and plans to be a civil engineer. Lloyd, a Grade 12 graduate, is working with his father, while another daughter, Ellen is in Grade six in school.

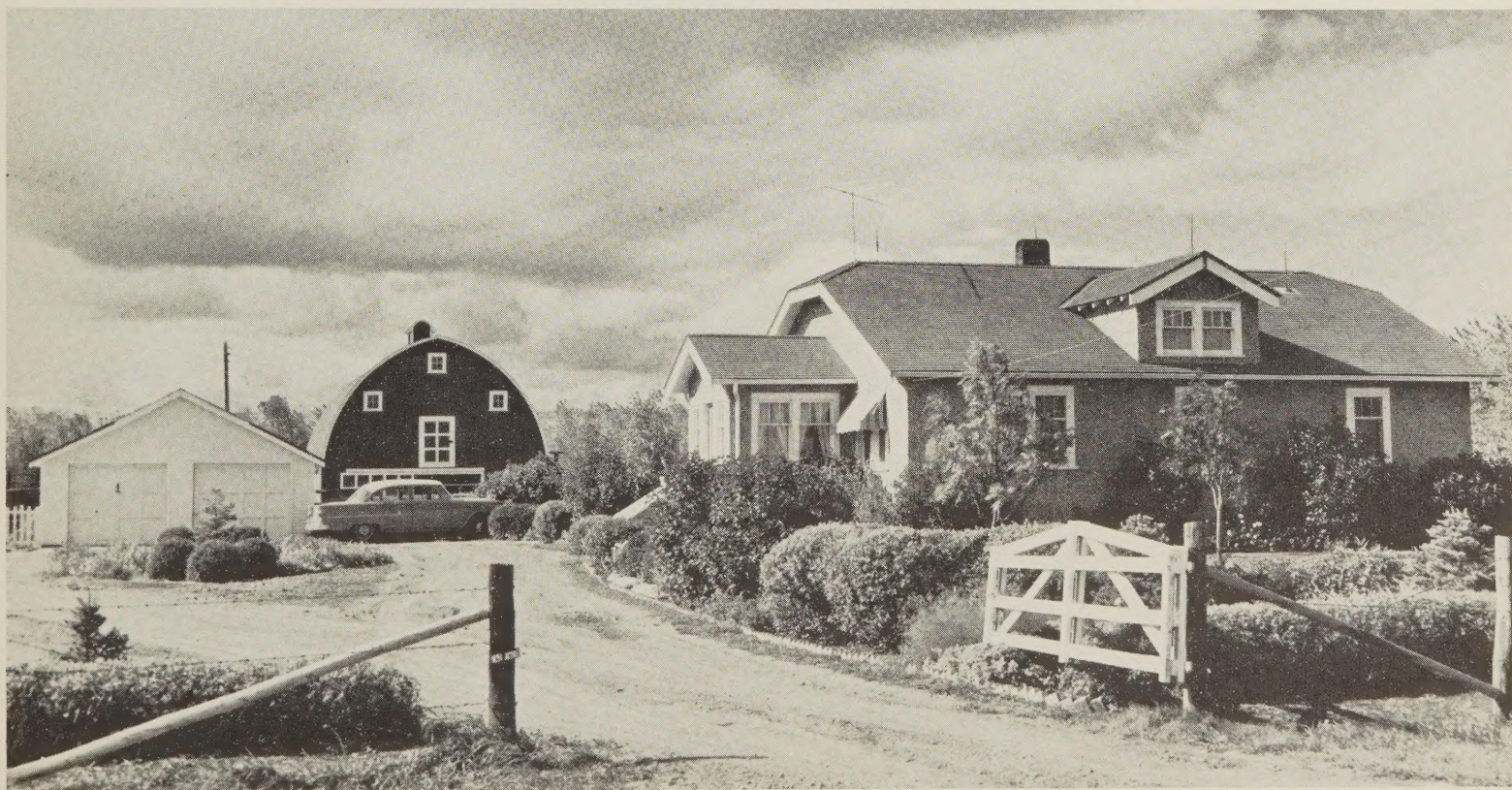
Mr. and Mrs. Cowling have taken a keen interest in community and church affairs and serve in numerous organizations. A strong believer in the 4-H club movement, Mr. Cowling has served as leader in both grain and calf clubs. He has also served on a rural United Church board and the local Community Hall board. The Master Farmer is a member of the



High River Agricultural Society, Chamber of Commerce and the Farmers' Union

Mrs. Cowling has been president of the Women's Missionary Society for four years and is vice-president of local group of the Farm Women's Union of Alberta. She also serves as member of the United Church Session.

Sons Norman and Lloyd both have been active in 4-H clubs and were consistent winners in various competitions.



The family that believes the highest development of each member is both an opportunity and a duty will not feel satisfied unless its life plan leads in this direction. For such a family, success in farming as an occupation or having a comfortable, attractive home, important though these are, will be intermediate goals rather than final ends.

Where there is good total management, resources will be used so family members can lead productive and useful lives, making contributions to the welfare of society while improving their own standards of living and self-development. Management, in its broadest aspects, helps family members be the best people of which they are capable, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. So this final test of good management is the kind of people it produces and the contribution they make to the society of which they are a part.

CARL AND LUCILE MALONE

Iowa Farm and Home Management Specialists,
Iowa State College

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THE MASTER FARM FAMILY PROGRAM WAS INITIATED IN ALBERTA ON FEBRUARY 17, 1949.

IT IS A POLICY OF THE ALBERTA GOVERNMENT WHICH SEEKS TO SELECT AND HONOR FARM FAMILIES WHO HAVE MADE AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS OF FARMING, HOME - MAKING AND CITIZENSHIP.



ISSUED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
HON. L. C. HALMRAST
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE